

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
Crawford Power Plant Demolition - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region V

Subject: POLREP #20
Progress
Crawford Power Plant Demolition

Chicago, IL
Latitude: 41.8297531 Longitude: -87.7218045

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Date: 5/4/2020

Reporting Period: 5/4/2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	C5M1	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Emergency
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	4/13/2020	Start Date:	4/13/2020
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:		RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Emergency Response

1.1.2 Site Description

On Saturday, April 11, 2020, the abandoned Crawford Power Plant smokestack located in South Lawndale Neighborhood, Chicago, Cook County, IL was demolished sending a cloud of dust off-site that blanketed the residents in the area of Little Village. On Monday, April 13, 2020, The City of Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) requested EPA assistance with monitoring the ambient air for particulates.

1.1.2.1 Location

3501 S. Pulaski Road
Chicago, IL 60623

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

Potentially contaminated fugitive particulates released to the environment, including a nearby residential neighborhood, due to a demolition of a smokestack at a former coal fired power plant.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

CDPH collected samples of building panels, not from the demolished smoke stack, found on the ground on site on 4/14/2020. The samples were analyzed for PCBs and asbestos. Both asbestos (10-15% chrysotile) and PCBs (Aroclor 1260 @ 9.1 ppm) were found in the material. The panels are fully intact and non-friable, meaning that it would be highly unlikely or impossible for any of the material to become airborne and blow into the surrounding neighborhood.

CDPH also did some air, wipe and soil testing after the demolition. The data can be found on their website:

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/hilco/home/community-information.html>

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Older reporting period's operations are summarized in previous POLREPs

5/4/2020

EPA, along with START, deployed DustTraks at the 7 locations provided by CDPH. Weather was cloudy with temperatures in the mid-40s with winds from the northeast at 15-20 mph. A Summary of the data collected at the locations is below:

Location	Duration (days:hours:minutes)	PM 2.5 8-Hr TWA	PM 2.5 STEL (Max)	PM 2.5 Daily Max (Instantaneous)	PM 10 8-Hr TWA	PM 10 STEL (Max)	PM 10 Daily Max (Instantaneous)	Units
East Perimeter	00:12:02	0.007	0.012	0.042	0.009	0.014	0.075	mg/m3
North Perimeter	00:11:57	0.006	0.022	0.188	0.009	0.034	0.312	mg/m3
South Perimeter	00:11:45	0.005	0.011	0.046	0.007	0.015	0.055	mg/m3
West Perimeter	00:11:48	0.008	0.014	0.028	0.009	0.017	0.044	mg/m3
Firehouse 109 (Northeast- Offsite)	00:12:01	0.004	0.006	0.015	0.005	0.007	0.016	mg/m3
Firehouse 34 (South-Offsite)	00:11:49	0.004	0.006	0.007	0.004	0.006	0.008	mg/m3
Firehouse 38 (North-Offsite)	00:12:10	0.007	0.010	0.016	0.007	0.010	0.018	mg/m3

Notes:

mg/m3 = milligrams per cubic meter

NA = Not Applicable

STEL = Short-term exposure limit (15-minute duration)

TWA = Time-weighted average

Because this is a public health concern, particulate action levels are based on the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) value of 150 $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^3$ (0.150 mg/m3) PM10. As a result, during realtime monitoring, exceedances of the total dust action level of 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (sustained for 5 minutes) will serve as indicators of excessive offsite migration of particulates.

On 5/4/2020, there were no sustained exceedances of the NAAQS recorded.

EPA collected air samples co-located with the 4 site-perimeter DustTrak monitoring locations. Samples were collected using standard methods for asbestos, metals and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB). All samples are sent to a fixed laboratory for analysis.

Preliminary results from sampling between April 19-24 show no asbestos in air above the OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL). Additionally, most metals were not detected above laboratory reporting limits. Where detections were found, results were below EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSL). PCB results are still pending.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

See previous POLREPs for descriptions of prior actions.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The City of Chicago has identified HILCO as the PRP and is the lead for enforcement at this time.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

Waste Stream	Medium	Quantity	Manifest #	Treatment	Disposal

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

On 5/5/2020, EPA will continue to deploy DustTraks and collect air samples at the request of CDPH to monitor potentially contaminated particulate matter being released from the site.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

CDPH has hired a consultant (Tetra Tech) who will replace EPA air monitoring and sampling instrumentation beginning 5/6/2020. EPA will continue to deploy its VIPER telemetry system to ensure real-time data reporting until CDPH can deploy its own system.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

CDPH is evaluating any additional work that may be necessary and will continue to engage with the PRP on plans.

2.2.2 Issues

Due to Covid-19 concerns, increased awareness and adherence to social distancing is being practiced. Increased sanitation and distancing are occurring, including personnel wearing masks when interacting with each other on site. These special provisions, among others, are documented in the site specific Health and Safety Plan.

Lapses in the telemetry network transmitting the data to the real-time data dashboard can result in erroneous readings, such as the same reading being repeated multiple times. All data are also recorded internally on the monitoring instruments, downloaded daily, and used to calculate summary statistics. The internally-logged data are not influenced by lapses in the telemetry network. All data summaries reported daily in this POLREP are downloaded directly from the instrument, not from the telemetry network.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information available at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

See table below for details

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
TAT/START	\$80,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	25.00%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$80,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$20,000.00	25.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Other Command Staff

2.5.1 Safety Officer

OSC is serving in this role

2.5.2 Liaison Officer

OSC is serving in this role

2.5.3 Information Officer

Chicago is the lead PIO, EPA has a PIO available to coordinate if necessary.

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

City of Chicago is the lead, EPA is providing operational support for air monitoring

3.2 Cooperating Agencies

Illinois EPA, Chicago Department of Buildings

4. Personnel On Site

EPA - 1

START - 2

5. Definition of Terms

No information available at this time.

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/report

response.epa.gov/CrawfordPlantDemo

<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/hilco/home/community-information.html>

6.2 Reporting Schedule

Typically daily until further notice.

7. Situational Reference Materials

An interactive Dashboard has been developed to present real-time air monitoring data being collected at the site. Instructions for accessing this Dashboard are presented below.

To access this resource, please

[Register Your Account Here First!](#)

NOTE: You only need to follow this registration process (Step 1) once, but you will still need to contact each OSC for the sites you want access to individually (Steps 2-3). If you have never accessed a resource on response.epa.gov, you will be redirected to your profile page on your first login attempt. Simply go back in your browser and click the link again.

- 1. After pressing the [Register](#) button on the previous page, go to your Inbox and check for an email message from mail@response.epa.gov to confirm your account by following the link provided in that message. You have 48 hours to do this!.
- 2. Then, send an email message with your request to [Andrew Maguire \(maguire.andrew@epa.gov\)](mailto:maguire.andrew@epa.gov) and provide a description of why you want access to this resource, including your first name, last name, email address, organization, and phone number.
- 3. Once you receive communication from [Andrew Maguire \(maguire.andrew@epa.gov\)](mailto:maguire.andrew@epa.gov), return to this Web page, and click the button below to open the map.

[Crawford Power Plant Demolition Air Monitoring Dashboard](#)